

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Case No.: 2:15-cr-00285-APG-GWF

## Plaintiff

V.

CHARLES BURTON RITCHIE, et al.,

[ECF Nos. 249, 262]

## Defendants

# Order Denying Without Prejudice Motion to Release Funds and Denying as Moot Motion to Strike

8 Defendants Benjamin Galecki and Charles Ritchie request that I release the following  
9 funds seized by the Government so Galecki and Ritchie can pay a settlement with the  
10 administrators of the estate of Karl LaDue:

1. \$296,746.66 from Gulf Coast Community Bank account number ending in 5034;
2. \$46,173.56 from Bank of America account number ending in 3971; and
3. \$39,451.60 from Gulf Coast Community Bank account number 4690.

4 ECF No. 249 at 4. However, the funds in each of the identified accounts were seized by order of  
5 another judge in this District in related civil forfeiture actions. *See United States v. \$177,844.68,*  
6 2:13-cv-00100-JCM-GWF, ECF No. 5 (\$296,746.66); *United States v. \$1,002,327.00,* 2:13-cv-  
7 00947-JCM-GWF, ECF No. 5 (\$46,173.56 and \$39,451.60). The defendants do not identify  
8 under what authority I could release funds another judge authorized to be seized, and I am loathe  
9 to undo another judge's order. The defendants should seek relief from the judge that entered the  
0 orders allowing the seizures.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the defendants' motion to release funds (**ECF No.**

22 | **249) is DENIED** without prejudice to the defendants moving for relief in the civil forfeiture  
23 | actions.

1 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the United States of America's motion to strike (ECF  
2 No. 262) is DENIED as moot.

3 DATED this 22nd day of May, 2019.

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6 ANDREW P. GORDON  
7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
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